4559

A

SPEECH

Made at the

ENTHRONEMENT *and* INSTALLATION

Of the Right Reverend Father in GOD

RICHARD,

Lord Biſhop of DURHAM.

[Price Six-pence.]

BRITISH MUSEUM

A

SPEECH

Made at the

Enthronement and Inſtallation

OF

The Right Reverend Father in GOD

RICHARD,

Lord BISHOP of DURHAM,

By the Honourable and Reverend

Spencer Cowper, D.D.

DEAN of *DURHAM.*

DURHAM:

Printed by ISAAC LANE; and Sold by Mr. JOHN RICHARDSON, Bookſeller, in the Market-place: alſo by Mr. SANDBY; Mr. J. HODGES, and Meſſ. INNYS and RICHARDSON Bookſellers in *London*. MDCCLIII.

BRITISH MUSEUM

A

SPEECH

Made at the

ENTHRONEMENT *and* INSTALLATION

Of the Right Reverend Father in GOD

RICHARD,

Lord Biſhop of DURHAM.

ONCE more, MY REVERND BRETHREN, thro' the Providence of GOD, We are called together, to Enthrone and Inſtall the Biſhop-elect into the vacant Chair of this See,

and thereby to give him ample and full Poſſeſſion of all the Rights and Immunities belonging to the Spiritual Juriſdiction of the ſame.

At the laſt Celebration of this Ceremony, my Wiſhes were, (I ſhou'd rather ſay *my fervent Prayer*) and I believe in this I ſpeak the Senſe of the whole Dioceſe, that that might have been the laſt Occaſion, that wou'd have happen'd in our Time of renewing this Ceremony, or that I ever ſhou'd have been called upon on the ſame Account, to ſpeak from this Place. For, altho' in the Succeſſor, we have much ground to hope and expect, that the Loſs We have received by the Death of our late Biſhop will be much repaired, yet the Remembrance of this *moſt excellent* Man will always be freſh amongſt us, and we ſhall *ever* find Occaſion to regret that we were ſo ſoon, ſo *very* ſoon, deprived of a Perſon every Way ſo well qualify'd, and ſo zealouſly diſpoſed to promote the Welfare of Religion in general, and that of this Church and Dioceſe in particular. But thus it has pleaſed GOD, in his Wiſdom, that it ſhou'd be. He was one of thoſe truly good, and holy

Men

Men "*of which the World is not worthy*," and therefore it is more our Duty to acquieſce in a Diſpenſation which forbad us the longer Enjoyment of him. I will by no Means now endeavour to give a perfect Repreſentation of this great Man. He ſtill ſurvives too ſtrongly in every one's Affections to make it neceſſary; and had it been, his Memory has, I know, * already in this Place been done that juſtice to which it requires, and in a much more able Manner than I can pretend to. Beſides, I formerly attempted *ſomething* of this Nature on this very Occaſion: His Life amongſt us more than confirm'd what were then but my Expectations; and I ſince had the Pleaſure to obſerve the Dioceſe experience the Good, reſulting from the excellent Qualities, then the Subject of my Thoughts, ſuperior even to what a warmed and affected Imagination cou'd repreſent or prefigure. In *one* Circumſtance, indeed, my Expectations moſt *fataly* failed, for I flatter'd myſelf that we ſhould have been happy under his Government, and have reaped the

* By Dr. KNATCHBULL and Sir JOHN DOLBEN.

Fruits both of that and his great Example for many Years to come. His Years, his great Temperance, and his ſeeming ſufficient ſtrength of habit ſeem'd to make theſe Hopes reaſonable and well grounded: But *the Iſſues of Life and Death are in the hand of* GOD, and our truſting in any Circumſtance, however promiſing, which Health and Years can add to our Hopes, is, as we have now experienced, vain and preſumptuous. Nevertheleſs tho' his duration amongſt us was ſhort, it was glorious to himſelf and beneficial to his Dioceſe. It was the ſhort viſit of our Solſtitial Sun, which enlivens Nature, tho' for a few Hours, and whoſe ſalutary Effects, tho' then latent, are certain, and become conſpicuous in the advancing Seaſon. For this excellent PRELATE, in that ſmall Space of time he enliven'd this Horizon, became ſo conſpicuouſly great in the faithful diſcharge of his Epiſcopal Functions, and gave ſuch a New Spring, by his Example and Influence to Charity and good Works; that he has not only been ſerviceable to the preſent Age, and thereby raiſed a tranſient Monument to his Glory; but his Munificence will benefit ſucceeding Ages,

and

and his Memory will be tranſmitted down to Poſterity, with all the Advantage, that the Glory and Reputation of having been a faithful Servant of GOD can reflect upon it. His Liberality to the INFIRMARY at NEWCASTLE vindicates what I ſay: It owes if not its riſe yet at leaſt its preſent ſurprizing Advance to his Munificence and Protection. But this and a few other Inſtances are now *ſolely* what remain to remind us of what we might have hoped for, if his Life had been continued to our Prayers.

HAD the Loſs of this, our great and good DIOCESAN ſtood ſingle, it muſt have been a great Affliction to all good Men, and particularly to them who are intereſted in the Proſperity of this Dioceſe. But this alaſs! was by no means the Caſe. For hardly had we recover'd ourſelves of the Concern *his* Death occaſioned, but this Church received a freſh wound in the Death of that Excellent PRELATE, who had for many Years been one of its Members; and the worthieſt that this or any other Church cou'd boaſt of. The late BISHOP of GLOCESTER muſt ever occur to the Memory,

where the BISHOP of DURHAM is mentioned. There is no praiſing the One, without tracing out the chief Lines that characteriſe the Other. Their Virtues were *the ſame:* Their Diſpoſition to Benevolence and Charity *the ſame:* Their Tempers *equaly* mild; and tho' the One enjoy'd a more viſible cheerfulneſs of diſpoſition, yet the Serenity and Calmneſs of the Other ſhew'd that *his* Mind no leſs than the former's was at peace, and *equaly* happy in the enjoyment of a pure and unſullied Conſcience. No wonder *ſo* form'd for creating a Mutual Eſteem, They ſhou'd throughout their Lives, be united in the ſtricteſt bonds of Friendſhip: two *ſuch* Minds muſt unite almoſt, as ſoon as meet. They were truly "*lovely in their Lives*;" and ſuch was the Mercy of GOD to the Survivor: That "*in their Deaths, they were* ſcarce *divided.*"——My Heart cou'd dictate much to me on this ſad Occaſion: But it is not proper that a *private* grief ſhou'd intermix with, and darken the cheerfulneſs due to this preſent Solemnity.

THE Character of the Succeſſor to this See is ſuch, as promiſes the Dioceſe and this Church

in

in particular much happineſs under his Juriſdiction: And we have no reaſon to apprehend that he will not follow the great and good Example his Predeceſſor has ſet him in his Labours and other good Works. And that we have a Biſhop in whom we have reaſon to think ourſelves again happy, We owe *once more* to the Paternal Care and goodneſs of our gracious SOVEREIGN, and the tender and Conſcientious regard He has ever ſhewn for the Intereſts and Welfare of that Church over which He is *moſt juſtly* and *lawfully* SUPREME. Amidſt the many ambitious claims for Dignity and Power, which are ſeconded with all the Weight of Influence and Authority; its no eaſy matter for the Sovereign always to follow his own good and wiſe Purpoſes in raiſing Them only to the higheſt Stations in the Church and State, who are the moſt eminently deſerving of their choice. The *one*, no more than the *other* is exempt from Men of that Character, who make their own Advancement and Intereſt the guiding principle of their Lives, and who with bold and aſſuming confidence, will uſe their

whole weight and influence with the great, to wreſt the higheſt and moſt important Dignities of the Church out of the hands of the more deſerving. That this does *ſometime* ſucceed is not to be wonder'd at or even cenſured: that it *oftner* does not; perhaps that it *has not*, where *We are moſt intereſted*, is due *alone* and *ſolely* to be attributed to the Wiſdom and Steddineſs of our Gracious SOVEREIGN, who in all his Actions, has ever ſhewn that ſerious regard and Attention to the public Good, which becomes his high Office, and which there is *no* Inſtance of his deviating from, where the Circumſtances of things, and the Characters of Perſons have been *fairly* repreſented. Our preſent Proſperity and happineſs under his wiſe and gentle Adminiſtration is a Subject I cou'd ever enlarge on with Pleaſure; and which is not *wholy* foreign to our preſent purpoſe, which is the Congratulating this Aſſembly particularly you, MY REVEREND BRETHREN on this freſh Inſtance of the Royal Prerogative being ſo wiſely exerted and directed in the choice of our preſent Dioceſan. It is a truth undeniable in itſelf,

ſelf, that ſince the Reformation to this preſent time the Eſtabliſh'd Church never enjoy'd more Peace and Security, or her Members were more fully eſtabliſh'd in all their valuable Rights and Priviliges, than ſince the Succeſſion of the *Houſe of Hanover* to the Throne. Does not then this Security, this Peace, this Proſperity call for Gratitude and Obedience from all the *Sacred Order* to the PERSON who under GOD, they are indebted to for it? moſt evidently it does— And I ſo little doubt that *all here*, are of the *ſame* Sentiments with myſelf in regard to that reciprocal Duty and Affection which are due to his Majeſty from all his Subjects for his wiſe and gentle Rule over them; that I rather fear the very ſtating the queſtion deſerves an Apology. Let me however, call upon you to joyn with me in moſt fervent Prayer to GOD for the Preſervation of his MAJESTY's invaluable Life, that he may yet be continued to us for *many* years: that the Remainder of his Reign be proſperous and glorious, free from *faction* and undiſturbed by *Rebellion*: that all his Subjects may know their Duty and Allegiance, and

ſerve him with grateful and willing hearts, ſuch as He has *ever deſerved*, and *as beſt becomes* a wiſe and a good People.

12 MR 58